



south carolina  
**STATE LIBRARY**

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*More* Monthly Newsletter

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## UPCOMING events

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### **Southeast Collaborative Online Conference: 3/14 to 3/16/2023**

Tune in for this free, multi-day online event featuring sessions devoted to helping library staff of all levels expand their skill sets and serve patrons better.

[READ MORE](#)

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### **March Data Chat: 3/23/2023**

Find out what public library staff can do with Gayle Community Insights.

[READ MORE](#)

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### **Finding a Funder for Your Non-Profit Organization: 3/31/2023**

READ MORE

## Crowning Achievement

When the new Miss Universe, R'Bonney Gabriel, passed the Miss USA crown to USC alumnus Morgan Romano earlier this year, we knew there was a chance she would serve as grand marshal for the Read-In parade. After all, Romano supports libraries by providing them with science kits through her "Out of the Box" program. We were ecstatic when she agreed to join us on April 20. Along with the South Carolina State University drum line, Romano will lead a parade of students and teachers from the South Carolina State Library to the State House. Once there, she will join students, educators, and special guests in celebrating reading and literacy. [Register to join us](#) in Columbia. If traveling is not an option, plan to join the live stream on [readsc.org](http://readsc.org) and social media. Follow the hashtag #SCReadIn2023.



## A Glowing Good Time

Few things are as rewarding as seeing library staffers put the things they learn at workshops into practice. We were honored to assist Lexington Main Library in offering a glow-in-the-dark yoga class to teens featuring props, games, and a bedtime flow



## The Teen-centric Library

Located within walking distance of a middle and high school, the Bees Ferry West Ashley library in Charleston County is a model for afterschool programming, serving up to 100 teens during afterschool hours. On March 28, join the Bees Ferry



sequence. In response to last fall's "Namaste at the Library" series, more libraries offer yoga storytimes and other yoga-related events. Way to stretch your programming skills!

team for [an online workshop](#) exploring ways staff can appeal to teens and create programs to keep them coming back.

## Grow Your Community



The Clemson Extension School and Community Gardening Program hosts "Growing a Seed Library" at the State Fairgrounds on April 26. [Register](#) to engage in hands-on seed activities while learning about resources to cultivate your seed library. Participants from rural libraries or food-insecure areas will receive priority donations of high-quality Botanical Interests seeds from the Clemson Extension "Seed Fairy" program. Donated seeds will be for cool-season crops, which perfectly support fall gardening activities.

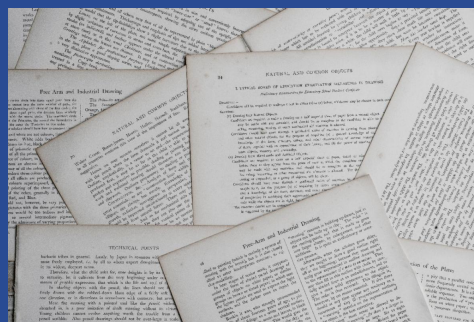
## Employee Spotlight

Technical Services Librarian Wesley Sparks began working at the South Carolina State Library in October 1987. Wesley witnessed tremendous change in Library Science during his more than thirty years of service; his early cataloging experiences involved learning how to type sets of catalog cards correctly. Wesley describes cataloging as fun: "To me, it's like working a puzzle or filling in the blanks." The camaraderie and team spirit among the staff is one of his favorite things about working at the State Library, which is why a weeding project in the early 2000s is one of his favorite memories. The entire staff chipped in to help get rid of books that were outdated or no longer used. They bonded while working and snacking during the project, wearing T-shirts that said, "Weeding and Eating."



## Through Her Eyes

Take a visual journey through South



## Know Your Rights

South Carolina's Freedom of Information

Carolina from the comfort of our lobby. Brigadier General Marie Goff, U.S. Army Retired, completed over 37 years of military service in the United States Army and the South Carolina National Guard. After leaving the military, she combined her passion for photography with her love of travel and started [a travel blog](#). General Goff shares some of her most treasured images of South Carolina in an exhibit in our lobby at 1500 Senate Street in Columbia. Make plans to stop by for a look and join us for a program featuring General Goff on the evening of May 11.

Act (FOIA) is for journalists and citizens alike. Join us for a series of workshops dedicated to teaching you the ins and outs of FOIA. [On April 27](#), award-winning South Carolina journalist Paul Bowers explains how he uses FOIA in reporting and practical steps for you to use it to stay informed. Media law expert Jay Bender breaks down the legalese [on May 4](#), explaining your information rights as citizens and how “sunshine” laws like SC’s FOIA keep communication open between local government, media, and the public. Leaders from the South Carolina Press Association join us [on May 12](#) for an in-depth conversation about how FOIA affects the news you hear daily.

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